

Lucy

English 10-5

Ms. Knuth

15 October, 2014

*Antigone*, “Ode 1”

Although man has power over nature, he cannot conquer death. In the first sentence of stanza one, the chorus plainly states, “Numberless are the world’s wonders, but none more wonderful than man...” The first and second stanzas continue to describe, in great detail, the powers of man to tame the earth. “...the storm-grey sea yields to his prows; the huge crests bear him high...” In the last sentence of the third stanza, the chorus declares, “He has made himself secure-from all but one: In the late wind of death he cannot stand.” Although humans may seem to be all-powerful, every man has one weakness: death. Even human greatness cannot withstand death, and that can be considered a tragic limitation for mankind.